



February 1, 2016

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This issue contains guidance documents relevant to current public health events and information from **January 19 – February 1**.

The next COCA Update is scheduled for **February 16**.

For questions about these or other clinical issues, please write to us at coca@cdc.gov.

Additional Resources

[CDC Emergency on Twitter](#)
[CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity on Facebook](#)
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Topics and Highlights

See Infection Control for Hepatitis C Virus in Patients Receiving Hemodialysis under Food, Drug, and Device Safety

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COCA News and Announcements

Recent COCA Webinars/Calls:

Zika Virus — What Clinicians Need to Know

Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2016

Presenters reviewed with participants the epidemiology and clinical manifestation of Zika virus disease and how early recognition and reporting of suspected cases can mitigate the risk of local transmission.

http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2016/callinfo_012616.asp

Archived COCA conference calls are available at emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/index.asp.

Free continuing education credits (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, CECH, and AAVSB/RACE) are available for most calls. For more information about free CE, visit emergency.cdc.gov/coca/continuingeducation.asp

CDC Emergency Response

2016 Zika Virus



NEW: Q & A's for Pediatric Healthcare Providers: Infants and Zika Virus

<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/qa-pediatrician.html>

NEW: Q&As for Obstetrical HCP: Pregnant Women and Zika virus Infection

<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/qa-pregnant-women.html>

Health Alert Network (HAN) - Recognizing, Managing, and Reporting Zika Virus Infections in Travelers Returning from Central America, South America, the Caribbean, and Mexico

Zika outbreaks have been identified recently in several countries in Central and South America. The outbreak began in Brazil in May. CDC recommends that travelers to affected areas in South America, Central America,

the Caribbean, or Mexico protect themselves from mosquito bites. CDC has also provided recommendations for health care providers and public health practitioners.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00385.asp>

Clinical Evaluation

Zika virus is spread to people through mosquito bites. The most common symptoms of Zika virus disease are fever, rash, joint pain, and conjunctivitis.

<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/clinicalevaluation.html>

Diagnostic Testing

Zika virus disease can often be diagnosed by performing reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) on serum. Testing is performed at the CDC Arbovirus Diagnostic Laboratory. Contact your state health department to facilitate testing.

<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/hc-providers/diagnostic.html>

Travelers' Health

NEW: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/zika-travel-information>

NEW: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

NEW: [Interim Guidelines for the Evaluation and Testing of Infants with Possible Congenital Virus Infection- United States 2016](#)

NEW: [Zika Virus Spreads to New Areas — Region of the Americas, May 2015–January 2016](#)

NEW: [Possible Association Between Zika Virus Infection and Microcephaly — Brazil, 2015](#)
[Interim Guidelines for Pregnant Women During a Zika Virus Outbreak — United States, 2016](#)

2014 Ebola in the United States and West Africa



NEW: Guidance for Developing a Plan for Interfacility Transport of Persons Under Investigation or Confirmed Patients with Ebola Virus Disease in the United States

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/emergency-services/interfacility-transport.html>

NEW: Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Decontamination of an Ambulance that has Transported a Person under Investigation or Patient with Confirmed Ebola

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/emergency-services/ambulance-decontamination.html>

NEW: Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Air-to-Ground (Air-Ground) Patient Handoff

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/emergency-services/air-ground-patient-handoff.html>

NEW: Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Patient Handoff between a Healthcare Facility and a Transporting Ambulance

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/emergency-services/patient-handoff.html>

UPDATED: Case Counts

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/case-counts.html>

CDC News and Announcements

NEW: CDC Feature Drinking Water and Lead

<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/tips/water.htm>

NEW: Continued increase in birth defect of abdominal wall

CDC researchers found that over 18 years, the prevalence of gastroschisis, more than doubled in the United States. CDC is working to address birth defects, including gastroschisis, by tracking birth defects through several state tracking systems and regional programs, collaborating with the National Birth Defects Prevention Network (NBDPN), and funding research in Centers for Birth Defects Research and Prevention, which

collaborate on large studies. These studies work to identify factors that increase the risk for birth defects.
<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2016/p0121-birth-defect.html>

NEW: First-of-its-Kind PSA Campaign Targets the 86 Million American Adults with Prediabetes
American Diabetes Association, American Medical Association, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Ad Council join forces to reduce the incidence of Type 2 Diabetes, one of the nation's biggest public health crises today.
<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2016/p0121-prediabetes.html>

CDC Science Clips: Volume 8, Issue: 4

Each week select science clips are shared with the public health community to enhance awareness of emerging scientific knowledge. The focus is applied public health research and prevention science that has the capacity to improve health now.
www.cdc.gov/library/sciclips/issues/

Public Health Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness and Response – (CDC)

Find preparedness resources for all hazards.
emergency.cdc.gov/hazards-all.asp

Emergency Preparedness and Response Training Resources for Clinicians – (CDC)

Find online and in-person training resources at
emergency.cdc.gov/coca/trainingresources.asp

Natural Disasters and Severe Weather



Be Prepared to Stay Safe and Healthy in Winter – (CDC)

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/winterweather/index.html>

Food and Water Needs: Preparing for a Disaster or Emergency – (CDC)

emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/foodwater/prepare.asp

Health and Safety Concerns for All Disasters – (CDC)

emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/alldisasters.asp

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

MMWR publications are prepared by CDC. To electronically subscribe, go to
www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html

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- [Increases in Acute Hepatitis B Virus Infections — Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia, 2006–2013](#)
- [Active Monitoring of Travelers Arriving from Ebola-Affected Countries — New York City, October 2014–April 2015](#)

Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases

NEW: Health Alert Network (HAN) - CDC Urging Dialysis Providers and Facilities to Assess and Improve Infection Control Practices to Stop Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Transmission in Patients Undergoing Hemodialysis – (CDC)

Between 2014 and 2015, CDC has been contacted about 36 cases of acute HCV infection in 19 different hemodialysis clinics in eight states. HCV transmission can be prevented when proper infection prevention and environmental disinfection practices are consistently followed. In response to the increased identification of HCV transmission in dialysis

clinics, CDC recommends following certain actions to improve infection control practices.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00386.asp>

Seasonal Influenza

What You Should Know for the 2015-2016 Influenza Season – (CDC)

www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/upcoming.htm

Weekly Flu View – January 23 – (CDC)

Flu View is a weekly influenza surveillance report prepared by CDC's Influenza Division. All data are preliminary and may change as CDC receives more reports.

www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

Information for Health Professionals – (CDC)

Health care providers play an important role during flu season. The following guidance and information will assist health care providers and service organizations to plan and respond to seasonal flu.

www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/index.htm

Pregnant? Get a Flu Shot! – (CDC)

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/pregnancyandflu/index.html>



Travel Safety

Current Travel Warnings – January 29 – (U.S. Department of State)

The U.S. Department of State issues Travel Warnings when long-term, protracted conditions make a country dangerous or unstable. Travel Warnings recommend that Americans avoid or carefully consider the risk of travel to that country. The State Department also issues Travel Warnings when the U.S. government's ability to assist American citizens is constrained due to the closure of an embassy or consulate or because of a drawdown of State Department staff.

travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html

Food, Drug, and Device Safety

NEW: Multistate Outbreak of Listeriosis Linked to Packaged Salads Produced at Springfield, Ohio Dole Processing Facility – (CDC)

Fifteen people infected with the outbreak strain of Listeria have been reported from eight states since July 5, 2015. Epidemiologic and laboratory evidence indicate that packaged salads produced at the Dole processing facility in Springfield, Ohio and sold under various brand names are the likely source of this outbreak.

<http://www.cdc.gov/listeria/outbreaks/bagged-salads-01-16/index.html>

NEW: MOVES Ventilator System by Thornhill Research: Class I Recall - Battery Problem - (FDA)

The issue may prevent the ventilator from providing patient breathing support and could cause patient injury or death.

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm483556.htm>

NEW: Baxter IV Solutions (Select Lots): Recall - Potential for Leaking Containers and Particulate Matter- (FDA)

Leaking containers could result in contamination of the solution. Injecting a product containing particulate matter, in the absence of in-line filtration, may result in blockage of blood vessels, which can result in stroke, heart attack, damage to other organs such as the kidney or liver, or death.

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm483215.htm>

MedWatch: The FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program – (FDA)

MedWatch is your Food and Drug Administration (FDA) gateway for clinically important safety information and reporting serious problems with human medical products.

www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch

FoodSafety.gov: Reports of FDA and USDA Food Recalls, Alerts, Reporting, and Resources – (HHS/USDA/FDA/CDC/NIH)

Foodsafety.gov lists notices of recalls and alerts from both FDA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Visitors to the site can report a problem or make inquiries.
www.foodsafety.gov/recalls/recent/index.html

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The Emergency Risk Communication Branch in the Division of Emergency Operations, Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response is responsible for the management of all COCA products.

For information about this update or other clinical issues, or to send your feedback, please contact us at coca@cdc.gov

[CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity Facebook page](#) – connect with COCA on Facebook

[Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity](#) – resources for health care providers

[COCA RSS Feed](#) – subscribe to be notified of conference calls, updates, and CDC guidance for health providers

[Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication Training](#) – training program that draws from lessons learned during public health emergencies, and incorporates best practices from the fields of risk and crisis communication

[Health Alert Network](#) – CDC's primary method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents with public information officers; federal, state, territorial, and local public health practitioners; clinicians; and public health laboratories



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